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08/646,503 05/08/96 RIDDLE

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EXAMINER

LM21/0724

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/646,503

Applicant(s)
Guy Riddle

Examiner
Chuong Ho

Group Art Unit
2752



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al (U.S.Patent No.5,617,539).

Ludwig et al. discloses *in a computer system having a memory, a processor, and a network interface* (See figure 18A). Ludwig et al. discloses *a method comprising the steps of: receiving an incoming call signal on said network interface; (See figure 18A). Ludwig et al. discloses processing said incoming call signal to detect an intended recipient application;* (See column 18, lines 55 - 65, the central component of Collaborative Multimedia Workstation software is the Collaboration Initiator 161. All collaborative functions can be accessed through this module. When the Collaboration Initiator is started, it exchanged initial configuration information with the Audio Video Network Manager (AVNM) 60 (shown in FIG.3) through Data Network 902. Information is also sent from the Collaboration Initiator to the AVNM indicating the location of the user, the types of services available on that workstation (e.g., video conferencing, data conferencing, tephony, etc.) and other relevant initialization information. The

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Collaboration Initiator presents a user interface that allows the user to initiate collaborative sessions (both real-time and asynchronous)).(see column 19, lines 1 - 22, in the preferred embodiment, session participants can be selected from a graphical Rolodex 163 that contains a scroll able list of user names or from a list of quick-dial buttons 162. Quick-dial buttons show the face icons for the users they represent. In the preferred embodiment, the icon representing the user is retrieved by the Collaboration Initiator from the Directory Server 66 on MLAN Server 60 when it starts up. Users can dynamically add new quick-dial buttons by dragging the corresponding entries from the graphical Rolodex onto the quick-dial panel. Once the user elect to initiate a collaborative session, he or she selects one or more desired participants by, for example, clicking on that name to select the desired participant from the system Rolodex or a personal Rolodex, or by clicking on the quick-dial button for that participant (see, e.g., FIG. 2A). In either case, the user then selects the desired session type-e.g., by clicking on a CALL button to initiate a video conference call, a SHARE button to initiate the sharing of snapshot image or blank whiteboard, or a MAIL button to send mail. Alternatively, the user can do able-click on the Rolodex name or a face icon to initiate the default session type-e.g., an audio/video conference call.)(see column 19, lines 30 - 40, Once the user selects the desired participants and session type, Collaboration Initiator module 161 retrieves necessary addressing information from Directory Service 66 (see FIG. 21). In the case of a video conference call, the Collaboration Initiator then communicates with the AVNM (as described in greater detail below) to set up the necessary data structures and manage the various states of that call, and to control A/V Switching Circuitry 30,

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which select s the appropriate audio and video signals to be transmitted to/from each participant's CMW.). Ludwig et al. discloses *launching said intended recipient application* (see column 19, lines 40 - 55, In the case of data conferencing session, the Collaboration Initiator locates, via the AVMN, the Collaboration Initiator modules at the CMWs of the chosen recipients, and sends a message causing the Collaboration Initiator modules to invoke the Snapshot Sharing modules 164 at each participant's CMW. Subsequent videoconferencing and data conferencing functionality is discussed in greater detail below in the context of particular usage scenarios. As indicated previously, additional collaborative services-such as Mail 165, Application Sharing 166, Computer_Integrated Telephony 167 and Computer Integrated Fax 168 - are also available from the CMW by utilizing Collaboration Initiator module 161 to initiate the session (i.e., to contact the participants) and to invoke the appropriate application necessary to manage the collaborative session,).

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 1 is rejected.

3. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al

Ludwig et al discloses *step of processing said incoming call signal comprises the steps of : parsing said incoming call signal to determine a signal type; and a signal port; (see column 23, lines 5 - 10, AVNM clients send call requests to the AVNM whenever they want to initiate a call. As part of a call request, the client specifies the local service in which the call will be involved, the name of the specific port to use for the call, identifying information as to the callee, and the call model. In response, the AVNM creates a call handle on the caller's port).(see column*

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21, lines 23 - 25, when creating a service, a client can specify the network resource (e.g. ports) that will be used by this service). Ludwig et al discloses *determining said intended recipient application based on said signal type and said signal port*. (see column 21, lines 25 - 30, service information is used to associate a user with the audio/video ports physically connected-to the particular CMW into which the user is logged on).

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 2 is rejected.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al.

Ludwig et al discloses *launching intended recipient application comprises the steps of: determining said intended recipient application based on said signal type and said signal port*; (see column 18, lines 55 - 65, the central component of the Collaborative Multimedia Workstation software is the Collaboration Initiator 161. All collaborative functions can be accessed through this module. When the Collaboration Initiator is started, it exchanges initial configuration information with the Audio Video Network Manager (AVNM) 60 (shown in FIG.3) through Data Network 902, Information is also sent from the Collaboration Initiator to the AVNM indicating the location of the user, the types of services available on that workstation (videoconferencing, data conferencing, telephony, etc.) and other relevant initialization information.) (See column 21, lines 22 - 25, when creating a service, a client can specify the network resources (e.g.ports) that will be used by this service. In particular, service information is used to associate a user with the audio,video ports physically connected-to the particular CMW into which the user is logged in.). Ludwig et al discloses *locating said intended recipient application using an application*

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signature (see column 22, lines 1 - 15, the basic underlying software-controlled operations occurring for a two-party call are diagrammatically illustrated in FIG.23. When a caller initiates a call (e.g., by selecting a user from the graphical Rolodex and clicking the call button or by double-clicking the face icon of the callee on the quick-dial panel), the caller's Collaboration Initiator responds by identifying the selected user and requesting that user's address from Directory Service 66, as indicated by (2) in FIG. 23. Directory Service 66 look up the callee's address in the directory database, as indicated by (3) in FIG. 23, and then returns it to the caller's Collaboration Initiator, as illustrate by (4) in FIG.23. The caller's Collaboration Initiator sends a request to the AVNM to place a video call to caller with the specified address, as indicated by (5) in FIG.23.). Ludwig et al discloses *signaling a process manager to launch said intended recipient application* (see column 22, lines 15 - 47, the AVNM queries the Service Server to find the service instance of type "video call" whose name corresponds to the callee's address. This service record identifies the location of the calless's Collaboration Initiator as well as the network ports that the callee is connected to. If the callee is local, the AVNM sends a call event to the callee's Collaboration Initiator, as indicated by (6) in FIG.23. If the callee is at a remote site, the AVNM forwards the call request (5) through the WAN gateway 40 for transmission, via WAN 15 (FIG.1) to the Collaboration Initiator of the callee's CMW at the remote site. The callee's Collaboration Initiator can respond to the call event in a variety of ways. In the preferred embodiment, a user-selectable sound is generated to announce the incoming call. The Collaboration Initiator can then act in one of two modes. In "Telephone Mode,"the Collaboration Initiator displays an invitation message on

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the CMW screen that contains the name of the caller and buttons to accept or refuse the call. The Collaboration Initiator will then accept or refuse the call, depending on which button is pressed by the callee. ...The callee's Collaboration Initiator then notifies the AVNM as to whether the call will be accepted or refused. If the call is accepted, (7),the AVNM sets up the necessary communication paths between the caller and the callee required to establish the call. The AVNM then notifies the caller's Collaboration Initiator the call has been established by sending it an accept event (8).)(see column 19, lines 47 - 55, additional collaborative services--such as Mail 165, Application Sharing 166, Computer-Integrated Tephony 167 and Computer Integrated Fax 168--are also available from the CMW by utilizing Collaboration Initiator module 161 to initiate the session(i.e.,to contact the participants) and to invoke the appropriate application necessary to manage the collaborative session).

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 3 is rejected.

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al.

Ludwig et al discloses *loading a call processing module into said memory; and initializing said call processing module to process calls using said network interface.*(see column 18, lines 38 - 65, CMW software modules 160 are illustrated generally in FIG.20 and discussed in greater detail below in conjunction with the software running on MLAN Server 60 of FIG.3. Software 160 allows the user to initiate and manage (in conjunction with the server software) videoconferencing, data conferencing, multimedia mail and other collaborative sessions with other

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users across the network. Also present on the CMW in this embodiment are standard multitasking operating system/GUI software 180 (e.g., Apple Macintosh System 7, Microsoft Windows 3.1, or UNIX with the "X window System" and Motif or other GUI "window manager" software) as well another applications 170, such as word processing and spreadsheet programs. Software modules 161 - 168 communicate with operating system/GUI software 180 and other application 170 utilizing standard function calls and interapplication protocols. The central component of the Collaborative Multimedia Workstation software is the Collaboration Initiator 161. All collaborative functions can be accessed through this module. When the Collaboration Initiator is started, it exchanges initial configuration information with the Audio Video Network Manager (AVNM) 60 (shown in FIG.3) through Data Network 902. Information is also sent from the Collaboration Initiator to the AVNM indicating the location of the user, the types of services available on that workstation (e.g., videoconferencing, data conferencing, telephony, etc.) and other relevant initialization information.)

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 4 is rejected.

6. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al.

Ludwig et al discloses *loading said call processing module into said memory comprises the steps of: loading a call directing component;* (see column 18, lines 55 - 64, the central component of the Collaborative Multimedia Workstation software is the Collaboration Initiator 161. All collaborative function can be accessed through this module. When the Collaboration Initiator is started, it exchanges initial configuration information with the Audio Video Network

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Manager (AVNM) 60 (shown in FIG.3) through Data Network 902. Information is also sent from the Collaboration Initiator to the AVNM indicating the location of the user, the types of services available on that workstation). Ludwig et al. discloses *loading a first conference component*; (see column 19, lines 10 - 20, once the user elects to initiate a collaborative session, he or she select one or more desired participants by, for example, clicking on that name to select the desired participant from the system Rolodex or a personal Rolodex, or by clicking on the quick-dial button for that participant (see, e.g., FIG.2A). In either case, the user then selects the desired session type--e.g., by clicking on a CALL button to initiate a videoconference call, a SHARE button to initiate the sharing of a snapshot image or blank whiteboard, or a MAIL button to send mail.).

Ludwig et al. discloses *loading a first transport component*; (see column 19, lines 31 - 39, in the case of a videoconference call, the Collaboration Initiator then communicates with the AVNM to set up the necessary data structures and manage the various states of that call, and to control A/V Switching Circuitry 30, which select the appropriate audio and video signals to be transmitted to/from each participant's CMW. Ludwig et al. discloses *loading a first network component*. (see column 23, lines 6 - 10, as part of a call request, the client specifies the local service in which the call will be involved, the name of the specific port to use for the call, identifying information as to the callee, and the call mode. In response, the AVNM creates a call handle on the caller's port)

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 5 is rejected.

7. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al

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Ludwig et al discloses initializing said *call processing module comprises the steps of: initializing said first network component to operate with said network interface*; (see column 23, lines 6 -10, as part of a call request, the client specifies the local service in which the call will be involved, the name of the specific port to use for the call, identifying information as to the callee, and the call mode. In response, the AVNM creates a call handle on the caller's port). Ludwig et al discloses *initializing said call directing component to monitor for said incoming call signal*; (see column 22, lines 3 - 10, when a caller initiates a call (e.g., by selecting a user from the graphical Rolodex and clicking the call button or by double-clicking the face icon of the callee on the quick-dial panel), the caller's Collaboration Initiator responds by identifying the selected user and requesting that user's address from Directory Services 66 looks up the callee's address in the directory database, as indicated by (3) in FIG. 23, and then returns it to the caller's Collaboration Initiator,). Ludwig discloses *initializing said first transport component to receive said incoming call signal*; (see column 22, lines 41 - 47, the callee's Collaboration Initiator then notifies the AVNM as to whether the call will be accepted or refused. If the call is accepted, (7), the AVNM sets up the necessary communication paths between the caller and the callee required to establish the call. The AVNM then notifies the caller's Collaboration Initiator that the call has been established by sending it an accept event (8)). Ludwig et al. discloses *initializing said first conference component component to transfer said incoming call signal*.(see column 22, line 3 - 20, when a caller initiates a call (e.g., by selecting a user from the graphical rolex and clicking the call button or by double -clicking the face cion of the callee on the quick-dial panel), the caller's

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Collaboration Initiator responds by identifying the selected user and requesting that user's address from Directory Service 66 looks up the callee's address in the directory database, as indicated by (3) in FIG. 23, and then return it to the caller's Collaboration Initiator,.....The caller's Collaboration Initiator sends a request to the AVNM to place a video call to caller with the specified address, as indicated by (5) in FIG.23. The AVNM queries the Service Server to find the service instance of type "video call" whose name corresponds to the callee's address. This service record identifies the location of the callee's Collaboration Initiator as well as the network ports that the callee is connected to.)

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 6 is rejected.

8. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al..

Ludwig et al. discloses *in a computer system having a memory, a processor, and a network interface* (see figure 18A). Ludwig et al. discloses a *call directing module*;

(See column 18, lines 38 - 65, CMW software modules 160 are illustrated generally in FIG.20 and discussed in greater detail below in conjunction with the software running on MLAN Server 60 of FIG.3. Software 160 allows the user to initiate and manage (in conjunction with the server software) videoconferencing, data conferencing, multimedia mail and other collaborative sessions with other users across the network. Also present on the CMW in this embodiment are standard multitasking operating system/GUI software 180 (e.g., Apple Macintosh System 7, Microsoft Windows 3.1, or

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UNIX with the "X window System" and Motif or other GUI "window manager" software) as well another applications 170, such as word processing and spreadsheet programs. Software modules 161 - 168 communicate with operating system/GUI software 180 and other application 170 utilizing standard function calls and interapplication protocols.). Ludwig et al. discloses *a process manager couples to said call directing module*; (see column 18, lines 57 - 60, when the Collaboration Initiator is started, it exchanges initial configuration information with the Audio Video Network Manager (AVNM) 60 (shown in FIG.3) through Data Network 902. Information is also sent from the Collaboration Initiator to the AVNM indicating the locating the location of the use, the types of services available on that workstation (e.g., video conferencing, data conferencing, telephony, etc.). Ludwig discloses *a conferencing component coupled to said network interface; and said call directing module*; (see column 22, line 3 - 20, when a caller initiates a call (e.g., by selecting a user from the graphical Rolodex and clicking the call button or by double -clicking the face cion of the callee on the quick-dial panel), the caller's Collaboration Initiator responds by identifying the selected user and requesting that user's address from Directory Service 66 looks up the callee's address in the directory database, as indicated by (3) in FIG. 23, and then return it to the caller's Collaboration Initiator,.....The caller's Collaboration Initiator sends a request to the AVNM to place a video call to caller with the specified address, as indicated by (5) in FIG.23. The AVNM queries the Service Server to find the service instance of type "video call" whose name corresponds to the callee's address. This service record identifies the location of the callee's Collaboration Initiator as well as the network ports that the callee is

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connected to.). Ludwig et al. discloses *said conferencing component containing a circuit for notifying said call directing module upon receipt of an incoming call and causing said call director to signal said process manager to activate a conferencing application.*

(see column 19, lines 35 - 55, in the case of a video conference call, the Collaboration Initiator then communicates with the AVNM to set up the necessary data structures and manage the various states of that call, and to control A/V Switching Circuitry 30, which selects the appropriate audio and video signals to transmitted to/from each participant's CMW. In the case of a data conferencing session, the Collaboration Initiator locates, via the AVNM, the Collaboration Initiator locates, via the AVNM, the Collaboration Initiator modules at the CMWs of the chosen recipients, and sends a message causing the Collaboration Initiator modules to invoke the Snapshot Sharing module 164 at each participant's CMW. As indicated previously, additional collaborative services--such as Mail 165, Application Sharing 166, Computer-Integrated Telephony 167 and Computer Integrated Fax 168-- are also available from the CMW by utilizing Collaboration Initiator module 161 to initiate the session (i.e., to contact the participants) and to invoke the appropriate application necessary to manage the collaborative session.)

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 8 is rejected.

9. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludwig et al.

Ludwig et al discloses *an apparatus comprising: a processor; a memory coupled to said processor; a network interface coupled to said processor; (see figure 18A).* Ludwig et al. discloses *said memory configured to cause said processor to: receiving an incoming call signal*

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on said network interface; (see figure 18A). Ludwig et al discloses processing said incoming call signal to detect an intended recipient application; (see column 22, line 3 - 45 , when a caller initiates a call (e.g., by selecting a user from the graphical Rolodex and clicking the call button or by double -clicking the face cion of the callee on the quick-dial panel), the caller's Collaboration Initiator responds by identifying the selected user and requesting that user's address from Directory Service 66 looks up the callee's address in the directory database, as indicated by (3) in FIG. 23, and then return it to the caller's Collaboration Initiator,.....The caller's Collaboration Initiator sends a request to the AVNM to place a video call to caller with the specified address, as indicated by (5) in FIG.23. The AVNM queries the Service Server to find the service instance of type "video call" whose name corresponds to the callee's address. This service record identifies the location of the callee's Collaboration Initiator as well as the network ports that the callee is connected to.....The callee's Collaboration Initiator can respond to the call event in a variety ways. In the preferred embodiment, user-selectable sound is generated to announce the incoming call.....The callee's Collaboration Initiator then notifies the AVNM as to whether the call will be accepted or refused. If the call is accepted, (7), the AVNM sets up the necessary communication paths between the caller and the callee required to establish the call. The AVNM the notifies the caller's Collaboration Initiator that the call has been established by sending it an accept event (8).). Ludwig et al. discloses launching a conferencing application if said intended recipient application is said conferencing application (see column 19, lines 40 - 55, In the case of data conferencing session, the Collaboration Initiator locates, via the AVMN, the Collaboration

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Initiator modules at the CMWs of the chosen recipients, and sends a message causing the Collaboration Initiator modules to invoke the Snapshot Sharing modules 164 at each participant's CMW. Subsequent videoconferencing and data conferencing functionality is discussed in greater detail below in the context of particular usage scenarios. As indicated previously, additional collaborative services-such as Mail 165, Application Sharing 166, Computer_Integrated Telephony 167 and Computer Integrated Fax 168 - are also available from the CMW by utilizing Collaboration Initiator module 161 to initiate the session (i.e., to contact the participants) and to invoke the appropriate application necessary to manage the collaborative session,).

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 9 is rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ludwig et al. as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Bantel et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,509,167).

As to claim 7, Ludwig et al. discloses *receiving an initialization message from said intended recipient application*; (see column 22, lines 42 - 50, the callee's Collaboration Initiator then notifies the AVNM as to whether the will be accepted or refused. If the call is accepted, (7),

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the AVNM sets up the necessary communication paths between the caller and the callee required to establish the call. The AVNM then notifies the caller's Collaboration Initiator that the call has been established by sending it an accept event (8)). Although Ludwig et al. discloses *receiving an initialization message from said intended recipient application*, Ludwig et al. fails to teach *removing said intended recipient application from internal list if said initialization message does not correspond to an expected message*. Bantel et al. teach *removing said intended recipient application from an internal list if said initialization message does not correspond to an expected message*. (See column 17, lines 27 - 30, in accordance with a feature of the invention, since the new terminal has indicated a set of capabilities differing from the conference, the data bridge system must now poll the terminals already connected to the data conference to ascertain whether or not these terminals will accept the new parameters.) Given the teaching of Bantel et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ludwig et al. by employing *removing said intended recipient application from an internal list if said initialization message does not correspond to an expected message*, such as taught by Bantels et al., coupled to *receiving an initialization message from said intended recipient application*.

By this rationale and that stated above, claim 7 is rejected.

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Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chuong Ho whose telephone number is (703)306-4529. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9am to 3pm.
 14. If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Burgess, Glenton, can be reached on (703)305-4792.
- Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be direct to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

CH

Date 07-15-98



ELLIS B. RAMIREZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER